

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A ceramic composition ~~compositions~~, which comprises:

1. at least about 91 mole % zirconia; and
2. from about 5 to about 8 mole % of a stabilizer component comprising:
 - a. yttria in an amount of from about 4 to about 6 mole % of the composition;
and
 - b. lanthana in an amount of from about 0.8 to about 2 mole % of the composition;
3. wherein the composition has a mole % ratio of lanthana to total stabilizing component of from about 0.15 to about 0.35.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 which comprises from about 92 to about 95 mole % zirconia.

Claims 3-5 (Cancelled).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1 which comprises from about 5.5 to about 6.5 mole % stabilizing component, wherein yttria is in an amount of from about 4 to about 5 mole % of the composition and wherein lanthana is in an amount of from about 0.8 to about 1.5 mole % of the composition.

Claim 7 (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein the ratio of lanthana to total stabilizing component is from about 0.2 to about 0.3.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A thermally protected article, which comprises:

- A. a metal substrate; and
- B. a thermal barrier coating comprising:
 - 1. at least about 91 mole % zirconia; and
 - 2. from about 5 to about 8 mole % of a stabilizer component comprising:
 - a. yttria in an amount of from about 4 to about 6 mole % of the thermal barrier coating; and
 - b. lanthana in an amount of from about 0.8 to about 2 mole % of the thermal barrier coating;
 - 3. wherein the thermal barrier coating has a mole % ratio of lanthana to total stabilizing component of from about 0.15 to about 0.35.

Claim 9 (Original) The article of claim 8 which further comprises a bond coat layer adjacent to and overlaying the metal substrate and wherein the thermal barrier coating is adjacent to and overlies the bond coat layer.

Claim 10 (Original) The article of claim 9 wherein the thermal barrier coating has a thickness of from about 1 to about 100 mils.

Claim 11 (Original) The article of claim 10 wherein the thermal barrier coating has a strain-tolerant columnar structure.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The article of claim 11 wherein the thermal barrier coating comprises from about 92 to about 95 mole % zirconia.

Claims 13-15 (Cancelled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) The article of claim 11 wherein the thermal barrier coating comprises from about 5.5 to about 6.5 mole % stabilizing component, wherein yttria is in an amount of from about 4 to about 5 mole % of the thermal barrier coating and wherein lanthana is in an amount of from about 0.8 to about 1.5 mole % of the thermal barrier coating.

Claim 17 (Original) The article of claim 16 wherein the ratio of lanthana to total stabilizing component is from about 0.2 to about 0.3.

Claim 18 (Original) The article of claim 11 which is a turbine engine component.

Claim 19 (Original) The article of claim 18 which is a turbine shroud and wherein the thermal barrier coating has a thickness of from about 30 to about 70 mils.

Claim 20 (Original) The article of claim 18 which is a turbine airfoil and wherein the thermal barrier coating has a thickness of from about 3 to about 15 mils.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a thermal barrier coating on an underlying metal substrate, the method comprising the step of:

- A. forming a thermal barrier coating over the metal substrate by depositing a ceramic composition, which comprises:
 - 1. at least about 91 mole % zirconia; and
 - 2. from about 5 to about 8 mole % of a stabilizer component comprising:
 - a. yttria in an amount of from about 4 to about 6 mole % of the composition; and
 - b. lanthana in an amount of from about 0.8 to about 2 mole % of the composition;
 - 3. wherein the composition has a mole % ratio of lanthana to total stabilizing component of from about 0.15 to about 0.35.

Claim 22 (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein a bond coat layer is adjacent to and overlies the metal substrate and wherein the thermal barrier coating is formed on the bond coat layer.

Claim 23 (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein the ceramic composition is deposited by

physical vapor deposition to form a thermal barrier coating having a strain-tolerant columnar structure.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the ceramic composition that is deposited comprises from about 92 to about 95 mole % zirconia.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 wherein the ceramic composition that is deposited comprises from about 5.5 to about 6.5 mole % stabilizing component, and wherein yttria in an amount of from about 4 to about 5 mole % of the composition and lanthana in an amount of from about 0.8 to about 1.5 mole % of the composition.

Claim 26-27 (Cancelled).

Claim 28 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the ratio of lanthana to total stabilizing component is from about 0.2 to about 0.3.